

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 /104 W
-----010968 040036Z /70

R 031458Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6707
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 05742

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, JO, CH
SUBJECT: PRC DEPUTY FONMIN VISIT TO JORDAN

SUMMARY: GOJ REGARDS JUNE 27 - JULY 1 VISIT OF FIRST SENIOR
PRC OFFICIAL TO JORDAN AS SUCCESSFUL, ALTHOUGH LITTLE OF
SUBSTANCE RESULTED. JORDANIANS SAID CHINESE ALMOST TOTALLY
PREOCCUPIED WITH USSR; ON MIDDLE EAST AT LEAST SOME GOJ
OFFICIALS TOLD CHINESE THAT IF THEY WANT TO HAVE ANY IN-
FLUENCE IN THE AREA, THEY'LL HAVE TO TAKE STANDS ON
INDIVIDUAL ME ISSUES IN UN AND ELSEWHERE RATHER THAN
SITTING ON SIDELINES. END SUMMARY.

1. GOJ OFFICIALS PLEASED WITH FOUR-DAY VISIT TO JORDAN OF
PRC DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HO YING, THE FIRST BY A SENIOR
PRC OFFICIAL, ALTHOUGH IT WAS LARGELY CEREMONIAL AND NO
CONCRETE RESULTS OF VISIT ARE APPARENTLY EXPECTED BY EITHER
SIDE. ACCORDING TO UNDERSECRETARY OF GOJ MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION PETER SALAH, JORDANIANS ASKED CHINESE TO PUR-
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CHASE PHOSPHATES, BUT GOT NO COMMITMENTS. THE CHINESE DID
NOT OFFER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND, ACCORDING TO SALAH, NONE
WAS REQUESTED. CHINESE INVITED KING HUSSEIN, CROWN PRINCE
HASSAN AND PRIME MINISTER BADRAN TO VISIT PEKING. BADRAN
ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE.

2. PM BADRAN TOLD DCM AND SALAH TOLD EMBOFF THAT CHINESE

ALMOST TOTALLY PREOCCUPIED WITH SOVIETS. CHINESE TOLD JORDANIANS THAT U.S., AS ADVANCED CAPITALIST IMPERIALIST POWER, HAD BEGUN TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO REALITIES OF THE WORLD; SOVIETS, WHO JUST BEGINNING TO TAKE IMPERIALIST ROAD, WERE VERY DANGEROUS AND THUS CHINESE FIND THEMSELVES CLOSER TO U.S. SOMEWHAT TO JORDANIAN SURPRISE, CHINESE EXPLICITLY CITED ZAIRE AS EXAMPLE OF WHAT WAS NECESSARY IN CIRCUMSTANCES. CHINESE WORKED THEIR FAVORITE TOPIC INTO BANQUET SPEECH BY HO YING, DRAFTING JORDAN INTO "GLORIOUS TRADITION OF FIGHTING IMPERIALISM" AND ASSERTING ARABS AND PALESTINIANS "SEEKING TO JOIN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ZIONISM WITH THE STRUGGLE AGAINST SUPERPOWER HEGEMONISM." (INTERESTINGLY, ARABIC TEXT OF ONE HO YING SPEECH QUOTES HIM AS SAYING CONTACTS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES "DEVELOPING RAPIDLY DESPITE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS"--PERHAPS HO HAD POLISH INTERPRETER).

3. JORDANIANS TOLERANT BUT SOMEWHAT PATRONIZING OVER CHINESE MONOMANIA WITH SOVIETS. SALAH SAID CHINESE CAME WITH NO DETAILED POSITIONS ON MID-EAST ISSUES; "ACTED AS IF LIBYA AND ALGERIA DID NOT EXIST" AND TENDED TO TAKE ATTITUDES ON ME QUESTIONS ON BASIS OF WHAT VIEWPOINT HELD BY COUNTRIES PERCEIVED AS ANTI-SOVIET. HE SAID PALESTINIANS CLEAR CHINESE FAVORITES, BUT CHINESE SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE IDEA OF HOW THEY COULD HELP TO ADVANCE PALESTINIAN INTERESTS. SALAH SAID HE TOLD ONE CHINESE IDENTIFIED AS CONFIDENTIAL

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FONMIN DIRECTOR OF WESTERN ASIAN AFFAIRS THAT IF CHINESE WISH TO HAVE INFLUENCE IN THE MID-EAST, THEY MUST PLAY PRACTICAL POLITICS AND COULD NOT CONTINUE TO SIT ON SIDELINES NOT PARTICIPATING, AS THEY HAVE DONE AT UNGA.

4. COMMENT: CHINESE APPEARED TO HAVE COME LOOKING FOR FRIENDS AND NOT TOO MUCH MORE; JORDANIANS HAVE THEIR OWN PREOCCUPATION AND ARE NOT IN NEED OF IMPORTS. THEY CORRECTLY ESTIMATE THAT AS MUCH AS PRC MIGHT LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENTLY COOL ARAB/SOVIET RELATIONS, PRC IS NOT CAPABLE OF PLAYING IN U.S./SOVIET LEAGUE. PICKERING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978AMMAN05742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780274-0870
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807101/aaaadhla.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f34dc06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1850704
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRC DEPUTY FONMIN VISIT TO JORDAN SUMMARY: GOJ REGARDS JUNE 27 - JULY 1 VISIT OF FIRST SENIOR PRC OFFICIAL TO JORDAN AS SUCCESSFUL, ALTHOUGH LIT
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, JO, CH, (HO YING)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f34dc06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014